

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|  |   |                                |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| In re Application of:                    | ) |                                |
|  | ) |                                |
| <b>Stephen A. Thomas</b>                 | ) |                                |
|  | ) |                                |
| Serial No.: <b>Unassigned</b>            | ) | Art Unit: <b>2157</b>          |
|  | ) |                                |
| Filed: <b>March 26, 2004</b>             | ) | Examiner: <b>Najjar, Saleh</b> |
|  | ) |                                |
| For: <b>INTELLIGENT END USER DEVICES</b> | ) |                                |
| <b>FOR CLEARINGHOUSE SERVICES</b>        | ) |                                |
| <b>IN AN INTERNET TELEPHONE</b>          | ) |                                |
| <b>SYSTEM</b>                            | ) |                                |

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 26, 2004

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-styled patent application, which is a continuation of U.S. patent application filed on June 29, 2000 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 09/606,574 on behalf of the inventor Stephen A. Thomas, please amend the application as shown below and consider the appended remarks.

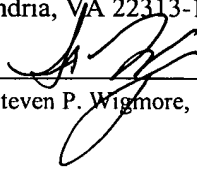
**AMENDMENT**

**In the Specification**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 with the following paragraph:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. ER 166402210 US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 26, 2004.

  
 Steven P. Wigmore, Reg. No. 40,447

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of and claims priority to Application Serial No. 09/606,574 filed June 29, 2000, entitled "Intelligent End User Devices for Clearinghouse Services in an Internet Telephony System," the entire contents of which are incorporated by reference. The present application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/141,432 filed June 29, 1999.